

with the screaming fans who have waited 42 years for this glorious moment.

The town, Detroit, the community, the State, were starved for a hockey title. They got it Saturday night. The most successful U.S.-based NHL franchise in history had not sipped from the cup since 1955. And after great seasons in 1994, 1995, and 1996. All ended in disappointing playoff defeats, the Wings fought off the demons and the naysayers skating into hockey lore with Red Wing legends like Gordie Howe, Terry Sawchuck, Ted Lindsey, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, I came to Detroit in the late 1950's, when the Red Wings were a dynasty and hockey was the local religion shared by everyone. They won four Stanley Cup crowns during the 1950's and the expectations were always great. This team and its fans have endured good times and bad times. For years in the mid 1980's, when the Wings were the worst in the league and, in fact, in one season won only 17 games, to the disappointment of the 1995 finals, all that will be swept away today with the parade of victory.

So congratulations go to Scotty Bowman, the coach, to Mike Ilitch and Jimmy Devallano for putting this team together. Congratulations, obviously, to Steve Yzerman, the captain, to the MVP Mike Vernon, to Brendan Shanahan, to the Russian five, and to all members of this great club for laboring through the tough times. And congratulations also to the Red Wings fans who stood behind their team through it all. Together, we have finally done it.

With an international flare, unlike many other teams, the Wings have Americans, Canadians, European, and Russian players. Detroit, with all of this group, has finally returned to hockey's ultimate peak. With the 42-year climb filled with pitfalls and setbacks, now it is finally over. It is time for this team and our fans to enjoy the view, the Stanley Cup. But only for the summer. Next season starts in September, and the Red Wings are for real. Mr. Speaker, it is not called Hockey Town USA for nothing.

HOMELESS VETERANS ASSISTANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] is recognized during morning hour debates for 1 minute.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that today I, along with the gentleman from Arizona, BOB STUMP, have introduced H.R. 1754, the Robert Stodola Homeless Veterans Assistance Act. The plight of our Nation's homeless has caught the attention of Congress, and many programs are available to help move these people back into society.

Sadly, though, one of the largest elements of the homeless population,

roughly one-third, are short changed each year. These are our country's homeless veterans. For many years, the veterans' share of Federal dollars targeted at our homeless population has been in the single digits. This legislation would ensure a fair share for our veterans, requiring that at least 20 percent of these Federal dollars be spent on programs that primarily benefit homeless veterans.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is endorsed by the Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Legion, the Non-Commissioned Officers Association of the United States, and the Blind Veterans Association. I would ask my colleagues to cosponsor and support this legislation.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 12 noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 12 noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 12 noon.

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We are grateful, O God, that You point us to a world of justice and You give us a vision of communities where people are treated with respect and mercy. We are also aware that You have created us with minds with which to think, hearts with which to care, and hands with which to work. So remind us, O gracious God, that supplied with Your revelation of the goals of life, we would earnestly use the abilities that You have given us so we are good stewards of the resources of our land and faithful custodians of the responsibilities before us. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TRAFICANT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair desires to announce that pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill on Friday, June 6, 1997:

H.R. 1469, an act making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, including those in Bosnia, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

POLITICS AHEAD OF PEOPLE

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, in January of this year northern Nevada was ravaged by torrential rainstorms and devastating floods. In response to this and other natural disasters, the House and Senate passed legislation providing vital disaster recovery aid, including over 25 million for Nevada alone.

But Mr. Speaker, President Clinton vetoed this legislation yesterday. Why? Because it contains bipartisan provisions that will keep Government from shutting down as it did in 1995. Unfortunately, the President has put politics ahead of people. I am extremely disappointed, Mr. Speaker, that the President has mistakenly chosen partisan politics in a time of such obvious and genuine need for the people of Nevada and the rest of America.

I urge my colleagues to quickly override this veto.

PERSONAL INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT

(Mr. KLECZKA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, last week the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. FRANKS] and I introduced H.R. 1813, the Personal Information Privacy Act, a bipartisan bill to safeguard individual privacy. This legislation is a companion to the Feinstein-Grassley bill, S. 600. The Kleczka-Franks bill will prevent credit bureaus, Departments of Motor Vehicles and other commercial users, including those using the Internet, from giving out Social Security numbers and other personal information.

A Social Security number alone gives a criminal access to one's medical, financial, credit, and educational records, as many of my constituents have found out the hard way. Thousands of people are victimized every year by identity fraud. In the first 6 months of this fiscal year, the Social Security Administration logged almost 4,900 allegations of Social Security number fraud. That is up from about 2,400 in the entire fiscal year 1996.

I urge my colleagues to sign on as cosponsors of the Personal Information Privacy Act. We owe it to the citizens of this country to protect them from